

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 23, 2007, claims 1, 19 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, including new matter. Claims 1-17, 19-29 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,697,815 (“Wilson”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0130899 (“Ryan”). Claims 18 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson in view of Ryan in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,591,272 (“Williams”). Claims 1, 19, and 31 are presently amended to more clearly describe the Applicant’s invention, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner’s rejections of all claims be withdrawn.

The Examiner has noted that the specification, as cited by Applicant, describes a model bean that does not contain any "business logic or formatting logic," not a model bean wherein no processing steps are implemented. See Specification p. 14. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s conclusion, as the “set” and “get” operations cited by the Examiner as processing steps “implemented in the model bean,” merely describe the entry and exit of data into and out of the bean, and do not describe any processing of the data itself in the bean. Nevertheless, the Applicant has amended its claims to replace “wherein no processing steps are implemented in the model bean” with “wherein no business logic or formatting logic steps are implemented in the model bean.” The Applicant respectfully submits that this places the claims in condition for allowance.

The Examiner cites Wilson as disclosing the claimed "model bean," and further notes that the Wilson bean does not perform "business processing." However, Wilson goes on to state that its beans perform "all other processing of the input data" including:

[C]hecking if the proper number and/or type of characters have been entered in any field in which the number of characters must meet certain limitations. For instance, credit card numbers must have 16 digits and they must all be numbers; a name must be comprised entirely of alphabetical characters; dates must be entered in a certain format; e-mail addresses must be of a certain format; a U.S. zip code must have 5 or nine numeric digits; etc. Further, some fields may be interdependent. The consistency of the data in such fields can be verified by the bean.

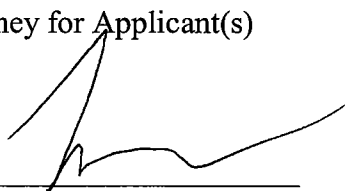
Wilson, Col. 7, lines 24-36. Accordingly, the Wilson model bean does not teach or suggest a model bean "wherein no business logic or formatting logic steps are implemented in the model bean." as required by Independent Claims 1, 19, and 31 as amended. See also, Specification, p. 14 (the model bean does not contain any "business logic or formatting logic."). The Wilson bean, despite its statement to the apparent contrary, performs both, as described in the specific examples above.

By separating storage functionality, provided by the model bean, from processing functionality, provided separately by other structures, the disadvantages of the prior art are overcome, including inefficiency and the increased overhead caused by code sharing. See Specification at pp 2-3. Wilson neither teaches nor suggests such a separation of functionalities, as the Wilson Model Bean performs both formatting and business steps, as described above. Therefore, Wilson does not provide the same advantages as the system presently claimed.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art of record does not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed system, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejections of all claims be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

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